

Message Text

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17

ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 OIC-04

EB-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /200 R

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R 082136Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

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TAGS: UN, ECOSOC, ECLA, UR

SUBJECT: MEMBERSHIP IN UN'S ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR
LATIN AMERICA

REF: USUN 5333 (NOTAL)

1. REFTEL REPORTS COMMENT OF ENRIQUE IGLESIAS, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY UN'S ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA (ECLA), TO EFFECT USSR, JAPAN, SPAIN, SWEDEN, ITALY AND FRG HAVE REQUESTED FULL ECLA MEMBERSHIP. THERE WAS ALSO POSSIBILITY OF APPLICATION BY PORTUGAL. IGLESIAS PLANNED TO GET INFORMAL REACTIONS ON SUBJECT FROM KEY ECLA MEMBERS AND, IF THEY FAVORABLE, TO REQUEST ECOSOC APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS NEXT SUMMER.

2. WE WILL TAKE OPPORTUNITY OF ECLA'S COMMITTEE OF WHOLE MEETING (JANUARY 24-25) TO ASK IGLESIAS FOR MORE BACKGROUND ON THESE POSSIBLE APPLICATIONS. SPECIFICALLY, WE WANT TO KNOW HOW FIRM HE BELIEVES REQUESTS FOR MEMBERSHIP ARE AND WHAT IS SUPPORTING RATIONALE BEING USED BY APPLICANTS. WE WILL ALSO WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAS BEEN REACTION OF ECLA'S LATIN AMERICAN MEMBERS TO PROPOSED EXPANSION AND WILL COMMENT THAT THEY, AS LARGE MAJORITY OF ECLA'S CURRENT MEMBERSHIP, WILL OF COURSE BE MAJOR FACTOR IN DETERMINING EVENTUAL POSITION ON NEW APPLICATIONS.

3. WITHOUT MAKING FINAL DECISION ON MERITS OF INDIVIDUAL APPLICATIONS AT THIS TIME, WE WILL ALSO COMMENT THAT FULL ECLA MEMBERSHIP FOR THESE NON-REGIONAL APPLICANTS WOULD ALTER ECLA'S BASIC REGIONAL NATURE AND COULD LEAD TO SIMILAR ACTION IN OTHER UN REGIONAL COMMISSIONS. WE BELIEVE REGIONAL APPROACH HAS BEEN FRUITFUL ONE WHICH SHOULD NOT BE CASUALLY CHANGED. WE WOULD MAKE IT CLEAR THAT WE WERE IN NO WAY QUESTIONING AN APPROPRIATE INCREASE IN RELATIONS BETWEEN COUNTRIES INVOLVED AND LATIN AMERICA. WE SUPPORTED, FOR EXAMPLE, JAPAN'S RECENT APPLICATION FOR OAS OBSERVER STATUS. WE WOULD ALSO HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO PARTICIPATION IN ECLA BY SIX APPLICANTS IN "CONSULTATIVE CAPACITY", AS DEFINED BY ECLA'S RULE OF PROCEDURE. IT IS FULL MEMBERSHIP WHICH WE BELIEVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COULD RAISE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS ABOUT UN'S REGIONALISM IN GENERAL.

4. EMBASSY COMMENTS, OF COURSE, ARE WELCOME, BUT WE ARE NOT REQUESTING THAT YOU APPROACH HOST GOVERNMENTS.

5. FYI: ECLA MEMBERSHIP, ACCORDING TO ORIGINAL 1947 TERMS OF REFERENCE, IS OPEN TO UN MEMBERS IN NORTH,

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN, AS WELL AS TO FRANCE, NETHERLANDS AND UK. LATTER THREE HAD THEN AND STILL HAVE COLONIES IN WESTERN HEMISPHERE. ALTHOUGH ECOSOC MAY AMEND BY FOOTNOTE THESE TERMS OF REFERENCE, ONLY NON-REGIONAL CHANGE SO FAR MADE IN MEMBERSHIP OF ANY REGIONAL COMMISSION WAS CANADA'S ADMISSION TO ECE (EUROPE). WE BELIEVE CANADA'S MANY CLOSE ASSOCIATIONS WITH EUROPE JUSTIFIED THAT ACTION.

6. ALL SIX APPLICANTS EXCEPT ITALY ATTENDED THE LAST ECLA PLENARY SESSION IN "CONSULTATIVE CAPACITY" OR AS OBSERVERS (FRG). THERE IS NO REASON WHY THEY COULD NOT ALL REGULARLY ATTEND IN "CONSULTATIVE CAPACITY". WE HAVE FOUND OUR "OBSERVER" STATUS IN ECA (AFRICA) BENEFICIAL AND BELIEVE SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT FOR THESE SIX WITH ECLA WOULD BE EQUALLY USEFUL.

7. WE HAVE IMPRESSION ONE REASON IGLESIAS APPARENTLY FAVORS ADMITTING THESE APPLICANTS TO FULL MEMBERSHIP IS THAT THEY MIGHT THEN PROVIDE EXTRA-BUDGETARY ASSISTANCE FOR ECLA. THERE IS, HOWEVER, NO REASON WHY NATIONS IN "CONSULTATIVE CAPACITY" CANNOT PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IF THEY ARE INTERESTED. THIS IS DONE BY NON-MEMBERS FOR OTHER REGIONAL COMMISSIONS, INCLUDING OUR GRANTS TO ECA. END FYI. KISSINGER

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